

Missouri Reentry Process (MRP)

<i>History/Pre-MRP</i>	<i>Result of MRP</i>	<i>Future Plans</i>
Sentencing		
Traditional presentence investigation without focus on release planning and sentencing.	The traditional Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) was redesigned to a Sentencing Assessment Report (SAR). This document replaced the PSI and was developed and implemented to include risk factors and identified criminogenic needs that are fundamental in completing the initial Transition Accountability Plan. The Court is provided with guidelines and presumptive release dates prior to sentencing.	Completed
Drug Courts - diversion of low risk offenders.	A number of drug courts have refocused on reentry after a period of incarceration. As a partner in the Missouri Reentry Process (MRP), the Office of State Courts Administrator has put a priority on working with high risk/need offenders.	Expansion of drug/reentry courts in Missouri.
Admission to Prison		
The Salient Factor Scale, which provides guidelines to assist the Parole Board in decision making, did not take into consideration dynamic factors related to release planning and early release.	Salient Factor Score integrates institutional conduct in parole decision guidelines as well as dynamic criminogenic factors.	Completed

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Admission to Prison (cont'd)		
Offender serving more time before being considered for early release.	<p>(1) The Parole Board has adopted a new Salient Factor Score instrument that uses more variables to aid in considering release decisions.</p> <p>(2) The Parole Board adopted a Waiver of Hearing Policy to allow non-violent Class C offenders with 5 years or less to waive their personal appearance and be scheduled for an earlier release date. This process is completed at the admission into the diagnostic center which allows for planning during incarceration and release. This allows offenders to be considered for release prior to the regular parole hearing schedule, thus allowing for a timely and planned release.</p>	Continue to examine and implement an expedient process to release those non-violent, low-risk offenders.
Lack of information sharing to families in an effort to promote family involvement.	Family orientation meetings are held monthly at reception and diagnostic centers for families of offenders. Orientation booklets are provided to offender families and is available on the department's website.	Completed
Assessment and Classification		
No standard department wide gender specific assessment.	National Institute of Corrections (NIC) has funded the creation of a gender specific assessment tool which begins at supervision and follows the offender through incarceration and release. The University of Cincinnati has created this tool based on the many tools used in Missouri (primarily validated for males) and combined them with risk/need factors specific for females.	The tool will be implemented for women in October 2006. The plan is to take the newly created assessment tool and reconstruct it to use department wide for male offenders

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Assessment and Classification (cont'd)		
Lack of standard substance abuse screening assessment and classification tool consistent with the Department of Mental Health.	Adopted the Addiction Severity Index (ASI) and Adult Chemical Abuse Screening at the diagnostic centers, targeted for substance abuse institutional services.	Implement with all offenders when full funding is obtained.
Assessments in the diagnostic centers primarily focused on classification and placement. This process has not allowed for transition planning.	Assets and liabilities will be identified based on assessment and classification to begin with the Transition Accountability Plan (TAP) process.	Implementation of the Transition Accountability Plan (TAP) in the diagnostic centers.
Behavior and Programming		
Lacked a department wide cognitive skills program.	Contracted service, Pathway to Change, an evidence-based cognitive skills program, designed to help the offender understand their thoughts, decision-making habits and alter their behaviors. Five institutions and ten district offices are currently conducting Pathway to Change programs. The department is in the process of training the next six Transitional Housing Units (THU's), Institutional Treatment Center staff and other districts in the state.	Expansion to all institutions, probation and parole offices and institutional treatment centers.
No academic achievement reports given to offenders.	Academic achievement reports provided to offenders on a quarterly basis to improve engagement in educational programming	Ongoing
Minimal technological skills given to offenders.	Keyboarding and computer skills are part of adult education and literacy services.	Ongoing
Employability Skills/Life Skills (ES/LS) offered at limited locations.	ES/LS is offered in all Transitional Housing Units (THU's).	Expand to identified offenders throughout the department.

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Behavior and Programming (cont'd)		
No coordinated effort to provide Head Start services to children whose parents are incarcerated.	The Department of Corrections in conjunction with Head Start and Department of Social Services, is in the process of developing an implementation for this program.	Children whose parents are incarcerated will be made a priority for the Head Start services.
No accreditation from the U.S. Department of Labor for vocational training. Limited availability of Missouri Vocational Enterprises (MVE) jobs to the community.	All Missouri Vocational Enterprises (MVE) programs are classified as vocational training and offenders receive accreditation from the U.S. Department of Labor. There are 39 apprenticeship programs being offered by the Missouri Vocational Enterprises (MVE).	Completed. Other job classifications will be added.
No training on family dynamics for visiting room staff.	All visiting room staff receive training focused on offender and family dynamics, family values and the importance of family and pro-social relationships.	Completed. New staff will be trained on an ongoing basis.
No therapeutic child and offender visitation.	An evidence-based program created to enhance visitation between children and their incarcerated parent. Two institutions are conducting these therapeutic visits.	Expansion to all institutions.
Minimal substance abuse resources in general population institutions.	Resources reallocated to place a priority on substance abuse services within the Transitional Housing Units (THU's).	Continued evaluation of existing and potentially new resources.

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Behavior and Programming (cont'd)		
Minimal pre-release preparation in the institution.	Transitional Housing Units (THU's) have been established in five institutions and seven additional are scheduled for implementation in June 2006. An offender is moved to a Transitional Housing Unit (THU) within 180-days of their release to receive intensive case management focused on a seamless transition home.	Expansion to all institutions.
No employability screening tool that could be used between the Department of Corrections and Division of Workforce Development.	CHOICES, employability screening tool has been purchased by the Department of Corrections and will be utilized as a standard tool in the Transitional Housing Units (THU's). This tool is used by the Division of Workforce Development and will allow for effective employment planning.	CHOICES results will be shared with the Division of Workforce Development to enhance employment services upon release.
Institutional substance abuse program standards lack reentry coverage provisions.	Partnered with the Department of Mental Health to revise Institutional Substance Abuse Treatment Certification Standards by placing an emphasis on discharge planning, transition practices, and successful linkage to community providers for continuity of care.	Approval by Secretary of States Office.

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Behavior and Programming (cont'd)		
No Continuity of Care policy.	The Department of Corrections Continuity of Care policy is in final draft and establishes a means for offenders that complete institutional substance abuse treatment to obtain a referral for continuing outpatient treatment in the community, including an initial appointment, prior to their release. At this time, staff in the Transitional Housing Units are making contact with community providers and field probation and parole officers to arrange treatment prior to release.	All offenders receive appointments for needed substance abuse services prior to their release.
No Mental Health Discharge Planning policy in concert with the Department of Mental Health.	In concert with the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Corrections has developed a Mental Health Discharge Planning policy which requires institutional mental health service providers to do formal mental health discharge planning in the Transitional Housing Units (THU's), allowing offenders being released receive direct referrals from the Department of Mental Health to community mental health providers.	(1) Implementation (2) Replicate in the Institutional Treatment Centers for co-occurring disorders.

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Behavior and Programming (cont'd)		
Minimal partnership with the Division of Workforce Development.	<p>In concert with the Division of Workforce Development, today the following occurs:</p> <p>(1) Offenders are registered in the Division of Workforce Development site and Great Hires.</p> <p>(2) Offenders in the Transitional Housing Units (THU's) are scheduled with a Career Center appointment within two days of their release.</p> <p>(3) The Division of Workforce Development provides a monthly Career Center overview to offenders housed in the Transitional Housing Unit (THU).</p> <p>(4) Job fairs are being conducted at several institutions.</p>	Continue to enhance partnership with the Division of Workforce Development at additional institutions.
Minimal partnership with the Department of Health and Senior Services.	Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Health and Senior Services allowing offenders to apply for a birth certificate prior to their release while they are in the Transitional Housing Unit (THU). Today, two pilot institutions are assisting offenders in receipt of their birth certificate prior to release.	Expand to all institutions.
Minimal partnership with the Social Security Administration.	In conjunction with the Social Security Administration, offenders apply for their social security card prior to release while they are in the Transitional Housing Unit (THU).	Expand to all institutions.
Minimal partnership with the Department of Revenue.	Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Revenue allowing offenders the ability to apply for a non-driver's ID card prior to their release while they are in the Transitional Housing Unit (THU). Currently being piloted at two institutions.	Expand to offenders lacking identification

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Behavior and Programming (cont'd)		
Minimal emphasis on family programming.	Building Strong Families is provided to the offenders in the Transitional Housing Units (THU's). Building Strong Families is a strength-based program to assist offenders and their families in building strengths, face their challenges and make informed choices.	Expand to all institutions.
No department wide resource to identify community resources.	Promoting the use of Community Connection, a statewide web-based resource guide.	Continued support of web-based resource guide.
Minimal partnership with the Department of Social Services.	<p>(1) Partner with the Department of Social Services to assist disabled offenders in applying for Medicaid prior to their release and develop an implementation plan.</p> <p>(2) Department of Social Services staff are entering the Transitional Housing Units (THU's) to provide information regarding services they provide (i.e., termination of parental rights, child support, and related family issues). Today, the Department of Corrections and Department of Social Services are currently creating an implementation plan for these two release planning strategies to occur.</p>	Expand to all institutions.
No faith-based reentry program.	Contracted Interfaith Initiative to be piloted at two Transitional Housing Unit (THU) institutions in 2006.	Potential expansion.
Violation response not linked to severity of violation or offenders public risk.	Pilot new violation response matrix that has been completed in six jurisdictions statewide and related policies implemented.	Implement state wide.

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Supervision and Services		
No efforts to promote the employing of ex-offender to the workforce.	"Employing Ex-offenders" brochure developed by the Division of Workforce Development to promote employment of ex-offenders (10,000 distributed). The Division of Workforce Development provides information regarding the federal bonding program to potential employers of ex-offenders.	Continued distribution of brochures to the community.
Sharing of case management systems between the Department of Corrections and the Division of Workforce Development had been nonexistent.	Today, the Division of Workforce Development has given appropriate Department of Corrections staff access to the Toolbox and case management system for collaboration with the Transitional Housing Units (THU's) and Probation and Parole.	Continue to expand to all staff.
Inconsistent care among providers working with substance abuse and mental health offenders.	In concert with the Department of Mental Health, standards of care for the treatment of substance abuse and mental health were developed to delineate expectations of Probation and Parole Officers and substance abuse and mental health professionals working with released offenders to improve continuity of care from prison to community. Providers signatures required for referrals.	Continued monitoring of compliance.
Offenders not widely understood by providers of community treatment services.	In concert with the Department of Mental Health, revision of state certification standards include offenders as a special needs population and are recognized by their agency.	Completed
Probation and Parole lack standardized guidelines of referral for clinical assessment and treatment.	A standardized substance abuse screening instrument has been implemented for offenders in Probation and Parole.	Continued research on screening and ongoing implementation.

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Supervision and Services (cont'd)		
No structured community collaborations whose focus was on transitioning offenders from prison to the community.	Eleven Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) community-based teams have been formed in Missouri to enhance services provided to offenders.	Expansion to all regions/districts in Missouri.
Discharge/Aftercare		
Minimal participation of ex-offenders in the Department of Corrections.	Ex-offenders are involved in the Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) to assist in promoting a successful transition home.	Continued use of ex-offenders in the Missouri Reentry Process (MRP).
Systematic Improvements		
No department wide case management tool.	The Transition Accountability Plan (TAP) has been developed and implemented in all Transitional Housing Units (THU's).	Expansion of this tool to be used from the first day of incarceration until discharge of supervision. This document will be shared with our partnering agencies working with the offender. The electronic version of the Transition Accountability Plan (TAP) will be completed in August 2006 and will be enhanced by other assessment and classification tools and electronic data for all divisions to use.
No official documentation relative to the support of the Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) from the Governor's Office.	Governor Blunt signed Executive Order 05-33 establishing Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) Steering Teams and defining the team's mission.	Continued support from the Governor and legislature.

<i>History/Pre-MRP</i>	<i>Result of MRP</i>	<i>Future Plans</i>
Systematic Improvements (cont'd)		
Fragmented communication in business practices within divisions of the Department of Corrections.	The Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) has improved communication between divisions of the Department of Corrections. There is representation from each division on the Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) Leadership and Management Teams.	Continued effective communication with the focus being on reentry.
Fragmented communication in business practices with other state agencies and community providers working with our clientele.	The Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) has improved communication between the Department of Corrections, partnering state agencies and community providers. There are currently seven partnering state agencies and five community-based representatives, including an ex-offender represented on the MRP Steering Team. This team meets monthly and reports progress to the Director's of the partnering state agencies and the Governor.	Continued effective communication with the focus being on reentry.
Fragmented information sharing system within the state.	The State of Missouri is working on implementation of an electronic information sharing system that would allow information to be shared between partnering agencies.	The ability to share information between partnering agencies in order to enhance the transition process for offenders.
	The Department of Corrections Information Technology Steering Team has made the Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) a priority by providing resources (i.e., creating and enhancing the Transition Accountability Plan (TAP) electronically, providing internet capability to Transitional Housing Units (THU's), automating the gender responsive assessment tool, information technology sharing with other agencies, etc.)	The Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) remains a continued priority for the Information Technology Steering Team.

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Systematic Improvements (cont'd)		
No reentry lens for the creation and revision of departmental policies and procedures.	The Department of Corrections policies and procedures are being revised with a focus on reentry to incorporate Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) principles into the department's standard practices	All departmental policies and procedures will be developed and revised with the transition phase in mind.
No expectation that contractors reflect reentry in their contractual work.	The Department of Corrections expectation is that all contracted service providers reflect the Missouri Reentry Process (MRP) philosophy in their contractual work. Contracted staff participate in Transitional Housing Unit (THU) teams and Transition Accountability Plan (TAP) development. All contracts up for renewal and new contracts being designed include the reentry philosophy.	All contracts awarded by the Department of Corrections will reflect the reentry philosophy.